

WINTER 2009

LYME ART ASSOCIATION News & Events

90 LYME STREET • OLD LYME, CONNECTICUT 06371



Bach, Sirrine: Newly Elected Artists for 2008



Del-Bourree Bach



Dennis Sirrine

Congratulations to the Lyme Art Association's newest Elected Artists, "Class of 2008," **Del-Bourree Bach** and **Dennis Sirrine**, both of Mystic, CT, both members of the LAA for about 4 years and the best of friends. It is rare to have either man's shadow cross the galleries' doorframes without the other striding in right behind.

They were both chosen by their Elected Artist peers, with many of the LAA's 92 Elected Artists viewing each entrant's representative selection of work in the Goodman Gallery last October. Welcome Elected Artists, Numbers 93 & 94!

When asked why it took so long for these two accomplished artists to apply for Elected Artist status, Bach answered for both of them by stating that it just seemed like the right time to get around to it. Both men stridently spoke of the friendship and camaraderie they enjoy at the LAA, with fellow artists, the staff and the volunteers.

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Old Yeller, acrylic, Del-Bourree Bach



Old Mystic Gold Landscape, oil, Dennis Sirrine

Change in Associate Artist Status Begins This New Year

All current LAA members and potential members please take note: As of January 1, 2009 any new member of the LAA must register as an **Associate Member**, whether you are an artist or an art supporter and friend of the LAA.

Any Associate Member who wishes to make a membership category move to become an **Associate Artist Member** must be accepted into four (4) different exhibitions within a two (2) year period before applying for the change in status.

All current Associate Artist Members are "**grandfathered**" into their current membership status as long as their dues are current. Any current Associate Artist Member who does not keep his or her membership up-to-date will lose Associate Artist Member status, and will have to satisfy the criteria to reapply.

This change in policy was introduced by APEC and voted on by the Board of Directors in recognition of the need to maintain the honor of our original artist founders, the reputation of the LAA in the competitive world of fine art and art collecting today, and the quality of the work displayed on the LAA's walls.

The LAA will be mailing Membership Renewal Notices to all current Associate Artist Members throughout the year, as reminders that their memberships should remain up-to-date to protect their present status as Associate Artist Members.

When are your dues due? If you have any questions, please call Krissa at (860)434-7802.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Every time I enter our wonderful building designed by Charles Platt, I am mindful of the exceptional

art that this gallery space was designed to showcase and the legacy we have inherited from the founders and early artist members of this Association. Today, Lyme Art Association hosts a diverse schedule of juried, high quality art exhibitions and our membership – professional artists, emerging artists, art students, art appreciators, and collectors – support a common purpose to enrich our cultural life. The current Associate

Artist Annual Exhibition on display through February 28th, and the works on display in the Elected Artist Gallery, offer a fitting testimony to the high quality of art shown here and the talented artists among our membership.

Our members are the life blood of the LAA and I encourage you to become involved in whatever way that you can. Volunteer to assist with gallery shows, special events, building and grounds maintenance, and day-to-day operations. I've been an Elected Artist member since 2005, served on the Artistic Policy and Exhibition Committee, and volunteered for a variety of tasks. In the course of these activities, I have thoroughly enjoyed the camaraderie among friends who

share my passion for the arts.

As a contributor to the Association's Annual Fund, I also invite you to make a donation to the Fund. Each gift, regardless of size, helps us to maintain our historic building, support ongoing programs and gallery shows, and enable community outreach activities. In these challenging economic times, your gift is especially appreciated.

I am honored to serve as President and to advance the cause of presenting high quality art exhibitions, conducting educational programs for the benefit of the local community, and preserving our historic art legacy.

Katherine Simmons
President, Lyme Art Association

Introducing

Adrien Broom



Ever wonder who does the beautiful graphics and designs for the LAA's promotional materials? Who orchestrated the layout of the splendid new book, *Elected Artists of the Lyme Art Association*? The answer is freelance graphic designer Adrien Broom.

With a degree from Northeastern Univ. in artistic design and computer animation, she has studied Art History in London with world-renowned Christies. She decided to return home to southeastern CT and pursue freelance graphic design. She particularly enjoys serving a gallery environment such as the LAA. She can often be found tucked into the LAA office, accompanied by her year-old Havanese puppy, Nino.

Adrien is also a photographer and lends her photography skills to the LAA when needed. She currently has her own show in the photography exhibit room of the Diane Birdsall Gallery in Old Lyme.

Adrien is available to help any artist who needs digital photographs of their work for exhibit entries, or who would like marketing assistance using graphic design. Please contact Krissa or Anna at (860)434-7802 for assistance in reaching Adrien.

THE 2009 MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK is available to **ALL** members and members-to-be.

Stop by the LAA, or call Krissa at (860) 434-7802 to arrange for mailing.



Board of Directors 2008 – 2010

President, Katherine Simmons

Vice President, Eliza Sharp

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Publicist, Susan Cornell

Building Maintenance, Ray Mastronunzio

LAA News & Events is a publication of the Lyme Art Association, a non-profit institution.

LAA supports the creation and appreciation of representational art work, the heritage of Old Lyme painters and the preservation of the LAA Historic galleries.

Lyme Art Association

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Hours: Tues-Sat 10-5, Sun 1-5, Closed Mon

www.lymeartassociation.org



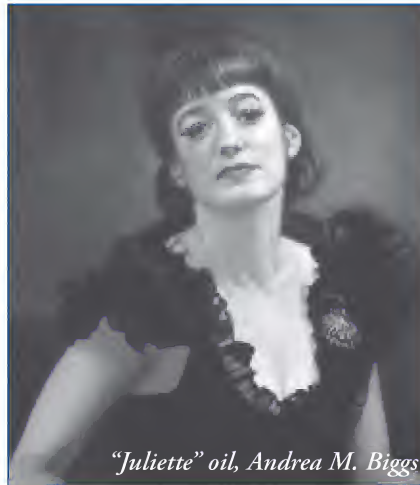
Art Notes

FACES of SPRING: Joint CSOPA/LAA Portrait Show

Faces of Spring 2009 is a joint presentation of **The Connecticut Society of Portrait Artists (CSOPA)** and the Lyme Art Association. The exhibition will open with an Artists Reception on Friday, Mar. 6th from 5-7pm and will stay on exhibit until Saturday, April 18th.

Portrait entries, open to all CSOPA and/or LAA members, must be original portraits, painted, drawn or sculpted within the last 3 years, and not previously exhibited with CSOPA. To be juried by CSOPA, all work had to be submitted by Jan. 31st via email image in JPEG format with resolution of 300 dpi. All entry forms, checks and labels had to be postmarked by Feb. 1st. A list of accepted works will be posted on the Faces of Spring 2009 webpage on www.csopa.org by February 23, 2009. Selected artists will also be notified by email.

The jurors are nationally acclaimed



"Juliette" oil, Andrea M. Biggs

portrait artists and CSOPA Advisors **John Howard Sanden** and **Robert Anderson**. Cash for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, ribbons for Honorable Mention, and Certificates of Merit will be awarded.

A Portrait Festival Weekend will wrap up the exhibition on April 17th, 18th and 19th. According to Event Chairpersons **Diane Aeschliman**, **Sandra Wakeen** and **Elizabeth Stone**, this Festival will include a movie night about artists on Friday evening, then paint-ins at the LAA on both Saturday and Sunday featuring a live model, which are open to all artists at a \$30 walk-in fee. A jurors' talk may be added to the events as well.

Information from the Director's Office

Changes in Shipping: Because of CT sales tax changes, any painting to be shipped out of state is still tax exempt, but the shipping cost must now be paid by the LAA. This means that the client arranging for the shipping must now reimburse the LAA, not pay the shipper. Clients paying by credit card will be asked to let the LAA keep credit card information long enough to put the shipping charge onto it.

Driveway Gravel: The LAA parking lot has been treated to a new top dressing of light colored gravel. The LAA would like to thank **Sheila Wertheimer** for arranging to have that gravel delivered and spread. Even in the gray of winter, it is possible to perk up the place!

Education Update: Starting with the summer session in June, LAA will no longer be prorating education classes.



March - September 2009 EXHIBITION CALENDAR

March 6 to April 18

Spring Painting & Sculpture Exhibition

Cooper/Ferry, South &

Cole Gallery: Member Show

Goodman Gallery: CT Society of Portrait

Artists Exhibition: Faces of Spring

Member Jury: TBA

Receiving: Sun., Mar. 1, 3 - 5 pm Opening:

Fri., Mar. 6, 5-7pm

Removal: Sun., Apr. 19, 3 - 5 pm

April 20 to April 26

Expressions Gallery Rental

www.expressionsartshow.org

May 2 to June 21

88th Annual Elected Artist Exhibition

All four galleries, Member Jury

Receiving: Monday, April 27, 3-7 pm

Opening: Friday, May 1, 6-8pm

Removal: Monday, June 22, 3-7pm

A Breath of Spring Floral Exhibit

Friday May 15 - Sunday May 17

June 26 - August 2

Summer Painting & Sculpture Exhibition

All four galleries

Guest Jury

Receiving: Monday, June 22, 3-7pm

Opening: Friday, June 26, 6-8pm

Removal: Monday, August 3, 3-7pm

Anything Goes at the Midsummer Festival:

July 24 & 25

Displayed downstairs & on the lawn.

August 3 - August 10

Gallery Maintenance

August 14 - September 20

Cityscape Exhibition: Exploring the Architecture and Life of Town & City
Cooper/Ferry Gallery & South Gallery: Member Show

Goodman Gallery & Cole Gallery: TBA

Member Juror: TBA

Receiving: Monday, Aug. 10, 3 - 7 pm

Opening: Friday, Aug. 14, 6 - 8 pm

Removal: Sunday, Sept. 20, 3 - 5 pm

Artist Study & Sketch Sale

Labor Day - displayed downstairs

17th Annual Associate Artist Exhibition



Denise Casey, *Yellow Barn*, Oil, Sold Opening Night

The 17th Annual Associate Artist Exhibition hung in all four galleries until Saturday, February 28th. This show which opened January 16th displayed the work of the LAA's Associate Artists. Jurying was done by Jury Chairman **Lou Bonamarte, E.A.**, with **Associate Artists Phil Cutting, Bob Gregg, Maryanne Rupp** and **Beverly Schirmeier**. All who visited this show expressed pleasure at the variety of the subject matter and media used, as well as the marvelous overall quality of the exhibit.

LAA Welcomes Suggestions for Invitational Exhibitions

Suggestions and recommendations for exhibitions, or invitational participants within LAA scheduled exhibits, are welcomed by APEC, the LAA's Artistic Planning and Exhibition Committee.

APEC will review and evaluate the benefit of the suggested invitation or show, then approve or decline the offer. The decision is based, in part, on Exhibition Proposal Information submitted by the recommending party on an APEC Evaluation Form designed specifically for such purpose. This form can be found on our website. Two samples of art must be submitted with the proposal. If the invitation is for a non-LAA member show, rental fees for the LAA galleries will be discussed.

If approved, APEC then submits the proposal to the LAA Board of Directors Finance Committee to review for budget planning. Please address any questions to **APEC Chairman Roger Clement**, c/o the LAA.

Gift to Shoreline Soup Kitchen

LAA contributed \$493 to the Shoreline Soup Kitchen. This gift was matched by Gowrie, Barden & Brett (CT and RI) in their 5th annual corporate challenge of matching grants up to \$25,000. This past year 150 businesses and individuals contributed and the Shoreline Soup Kitchen received \$74,298, which translates into over a quarter million meals served. Thanks to everyone who made the LAA's annual contribution possible.



Shoreline Soup Kitchen volunteers at work at the Old Lyme Congregation Church

Bach, Sirrine: Newly Elected Artists for 2008

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"It is a wonderful honor to belong to an association with such a history and with so much meaning for us as artists. I personally can really relate to the Florence Griswold Impressionists. I aspire to take something from all of them; hopefully, making me a better painter. This is a very welcoming place," says Sirrine.

Bach's works, whether in acrylics or watercolors, are masterful studies in detail and control. His marine scenes accentuate dune grass blades, the last light dancing on tidal ripples, the quietude of trusted boats, the separate feathers on wings of an egret's takeoff, or the weathered rumples of fishermen's trousers. No point in his environmental visions escapes his brush; nor does the light which he deftly uses to secure the mood for his viewers. He says he uses the entire spectrum on his palette, including black.

Bach is a member of many professional arts organizations, including signature member of the American Society of Marine Artists, National Oil and Acrylic Painters Society, fellow of the American Artists Professional League, the Hudson Valley Art Association and the Salmagundi Club of New York (he's served on the Boards of Directors of the latter two). His works are in private, corporate and museum collections, including the Florence Griswold Museum in Old Lyme.

Sirrine loves to explore the CT shoreline and islands. His oils tend to be first and foremost about the light, land and water of southeastern CT; giving broad brushstroke power to the juxtaposition of sunsets on darkened shores, of oranges on bluish greens, of broad skies silhouetting single, wind-knarled trees. These dramatic contrasts invite the viewer to partake of the same inner calm on canvas that Sirrine captures in his own soul as he paints. His palette is limited to cobalt blue, ultramarine blue, the cadmiums red, orange and yellow, alizarin crimson, the umbers, sienna and white.

Sirrine has studied in Michigan, Minnesota, Italy and France and has traveled in India. He is also a member of many professional arts organizations, including the American Artists Professional League, the Hudson Valley Art Association, the Mystic Arts Center, and the Salmagundi Club of New York (also serving on the Board).

Both Bach and Sirrine are often ready to be volunteers themselves for the LAA; especially as expert hangers and welcomers on Opening nights. The LAA is proud to announce these newest Elected Artists.

Elected Artists DO Volunteer



*Bob Duffy and Michael Graves
on receiving day.*



*Christopher Zhang gives a
gallery talk*



*Angie Falstrom on
Receiving Day*



*Sunlight Impressions Open Night
Chris Dixon, Yves Parent, Roger Clements, Bill Hanson*

Donations Sought



*would greatly appreciate any
of the following:*

- Donate funds to upgrade the LAA computer systems
- Donate funds to the rebuilding of the LAA front entrance walkway and gardens
- Donate funds for a microphone, podium & speaker
- New or gently used Microwave
- New or gently used Coffee Machine
- Wheel barrow
- Volunteers for Front Desk and Volunteers for Spring
- Clean Up
- Daffodil bulbs for planting next season
- BJ's gift cards



HAPPY BIRTHDAY JOANN AND NELL



Most Fridays, **Joann Ballinger** meets with her students for a 2 ½ hour pastel painting session. But this wasn't most Fridays, this was Friday the 13th of February, and most of the class had planned a surprise birthday party for Joann and student **Nell Manolakos**, who is turning 90! Joann and Nell share the same birthdate of February 18.

The celebration included a raspberry-filled birthday cake with lettering and candles, a vanilla ice cream cake, fresh strawberries to be dipped in hot chocolate, and champagne. The students brought gifts and poems written about Nell and Joann. Two beautiful bouquets of flowers that had served as still life sets for the day's pastel lesson were gifted to the birthday girls by the group.

"You can tell that the students appreciate their friendship and education with their teacher, Joann Ballinger," said Director Anne Grenier, smiling. "The Friday Pastels class has such a familial way about it that it seems they would not let an important milestone like a 90th birthday pass by without sharing it all together."

Gallery Talk

"The Creative Process" Lecture Series Was Exciting; Well Attended

A series of Winter Gallery Talks involving chats with Elected Artist members on such diverse topics as an international artist's artistic journey around the world, a personal view of the New England landscape and the 21st century Bronze Age (sculpture) concluded on February 26th with a panel discussion featuring two veteran Elected Artists, **Jennifer Holmes** and **Catherine Elliott**. They were joined by two newly Elected Artists, **Del-Bouree Bach** and **Dennis Serrine**, for a lively discussion of plein air and studio painting. Each artist passed on much about their inspirations, techniques and "any other subjects that came to mind in the course" of pursuing their passion.

On January 22nd **Christopher Zhang** initiated the series by presenting a slide show and discussing his experiences traveling the world with paint box, looking for inspiration. Zhang, a noted international artist, began his career in his native China. He has painted in Tibet and in North America. He shared with his audience the thrill of his most recent painting expedition to Bulgaria and the Balkans of Eastern Europe.

LAA President, **Katherine Simmons**, demonstrated her pastel and painting techniques on January 29th, in a program she called "A Personal View of the New England Landscape." "My goal," said Simmons, "is to capture my sense of the scene before me rather than provide a literal rendering of what I see. And, by leaving some things left unsaid, I invite you to bring your own thoughts and responses to the painting."

Simmons was followed, on February 12th, by sculptor **Rosemary Gurpide**. She explained the intricacies of creating a bronze sculpture from start to finish, with demonstrations of works in each stage of the process. "My first love was portraiture. I am fascinated by the uniqueness of each face," said Gurpide. "As I continued



Lecture Series attendees.

to work I came to realize that the entire body is a portrait, at times more expressive than the face."

The artist talks were very well attended. They were held informally and the audience was encouraged to ask questions. Examples of each artist's work were on display and refreshments were served to those who came to listen.

"These lectures have been packed with information. Artists and art enthusiasts alike have enjoyed them," explained Director, **Anna Grenier**. "Our members love to hear and see how other artists create work. LAA is grateful to the artists that donate their time to us and share their own unique artistic processes. I think we will try such a lecture series again."



Katherine Simmons discussing her creative process.



Publishes Book of Elected Artists Susan Cornell, *Publicist*

written by Susan Cornell, Publicist

The Lyme Art Association announces the publication of *Elected Artists of the Lyme Art Association*. The full-color book, which will be published every five years, features over fifty of the organization's elected artists, with biographies and images of their art.

An introduction by Lyme art historian Michael Lloyd gives a concise history of the organization, along with photographs and documents which enhance his description of the early years of the art colony. Lloyd said: "For over 100 years Old Lyme, CT has been associated with American art and artist members of the Lyme Art Association have kept the spirit of art alive. My foreword which includes previously unpublished notes, focuses

primarily on the association's early history and historic gallery."

In his introduction, he quotes from a contemporary (1921) article in the New York Times, which stated that LAA is "the ideal gallery...Greater appropriateness, beauty of proportions and refinement of taste hardly could be found... Truly an artist's gallery, built for and by and with artists."

Elected Artists of the Lyme Art Association is beautifully hard-bound with a wrap-around image of the Lyme Art Association building designed by architect Charles Platt and the artists. It is available at the gallery, or by mail for \$20.00 plus \$1.20 tax and \$5.00 shipping.

Member Highlights

Richard Christofferson, *Elected Artist*, was accepted as a National Arts Club of New York Exhibiting Artist Member in October. "This is a significant achievement for me considering a number of the original Lyme Art colony members who formed LAA also formed the NAC."

Christine Ivers, *Elected Artist*, has achieved Master Circle status at the International Association of Pastel Societies. She will receive her medal in May at the IAPS Convention to be held in Albuquerque, NM. She has also been selected as one of "Paint America 2008" Top 100 Artists and will have her paintings in Kennedy Publishing's "Best in American Artists" Pastel Edition for 2009. At the end of 2008, Chris was elected President of the CT Pastel Society. She also had a 3" x 4" Oil on Canvas recently added to the permanent collection of UCONN Medical Center's John Dempsey Hospital in Farmington, CT. The painting is a depiction of the Hospital at night, entitled "Always Awake".

Barbara Maiser, *Elected Artist*, has a watercolor hanging in the History & Art Exhibition celebrating the 100th anniversary of the NAACP at Art Space in Norwich, CT. The exhibit was juried by Barkley Hendricks, Professor of Art at Connecticut College. Barbara's painting, entitled "Waiting for Freedom" is of a young African American woman in period dress and cape awaiting her time to perform during the filming of "Amistad" in Mystic.

Cora Ogden, *Elected Artist*, was represented in the 39th Annual Juried New Britain Museum of American Art Exhibit this winter. She will be teaching a workshop for the very first time at the LAA in March. The subject is still life painting

THE BULLETIN BOARD

■ SPRING & SUMMER INTERNS SOUGHT

College or High School Student
Art or Art Business Major
preferred.

To help with the daily running of the gallery, plus staging receptions and fundraisers. Please call Krissa at (860)434-7802

■ NEEDED: BOOKKEEPER

Part-time Volunteer to assist the Treasurer and staff. Knowledge of Quick Books helpful. 2-4 hrs/wk at volunteer's convenience. Call Krissa at (860)434-7802.

■ FABRICS DONATIONS FOR STUDIO

Printed and plain fabrics in one yard or larger pieces are needed in the studio for still life displays and model presentations. Please bring contributions to the office on the lower level.

■ SAVE LAA PRESS CLIPPINGS

Please save clippings of LAA press from newspapers & magazines. LAA relies on our membership for these important documents to go in our archives. *Thank you!*

■ FREE FRAMES AVAILABLE

Gayle Burlingham reports that she has assorted frames available free of charge. Please contact her at (860)434-4232.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS



Figure Painting

Anthony Watkins, Instructor

March 14 & 15, 9-4pm

Saturday & Sunday

Fee: \$190 for Members

\$210 for Nonmembers

Anthony will demonstrate and complete a figure painting from the live model in an indoor setting. At each stage of the painting Anthony will discuss all aspects of the painting process. Topics covered include drawing, light and shadow, how to see color and value as a unit, how to render the features of the model and create a likeness, edge control, and how to achieve the illusion of three dimensionality when painting the human form. Each day students will work on their own paintings from the model and receive individual instruction. The goal of the workshop is to introduce participants to techniques which will enable them to create stronger, more convincing figure studies and portraits.



Introduction to Outdoor Painting in Oil

Lou Bonamarte, Instructor

May 11-13, 9am-1pm

Monday – Wednesday

Or

Introduction to Outdoor Painting in Watercolor

May 18-20, 9am-1pm

Monday – Wednesday

Fee per workshop:

\$300 for Members

\$355 for Nonmembers

This course is about fun and joy of painting outdoors. It's about the constant changing light source, it's about the continual color changes, it's about value, composition & design. If you have some ability to draw what you see, I can show you the way to paint what you see and enjoy being outdoors. Come join me. Sites to be announced.



Landscape Painting

Hollis Dunlap, Instructor

May 30 & 31, 9am-4pm

Saturday & Sunday,

Fee: \$250 for Members

\$295 for Nonmembers

Working outside presents unique opportunities and challenges. The unpredictable nature of weather and changing light conditions makes it very helpful to have uncomplicated working methods. We will work with a simple setup of primary colors and small panels. You will be encouraged to determine a solid compositional idea before applying paint, and to continue with that idea for the duration. An exciting aspect of painting on-site is that it is ok to do a "sketchier" painting; in fact, this is often necessary since some of the most beautiful and interesting light effects last for shorter time periods. Mr. Dunlap will demonstrate how to effectively set up a composition, apply paint, and mix color in order to get the most out of your time painting outside.

Relieve Your Winter Sunday Blahs!

Figure Drawing Sundays 1-4pm

Monitored by Chet White

Walk-in fee: \$10 Members,

\$12 Nonmembers

Wishing for inspiration on long winter Sundays? Why not work from a live model in short and long poses to maintain and improve your drawing or painting skills. The group gathers in the LAA studio, or, occasionally, upstairs in the Goodman Gallery. The non-instructional class is open to all skill levels and media.



LYME ART ASSOCIATION

90 Lyme Street

Old Lyme, CT 06371

www.LymeArtAssociation.org